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Attorney's Docket: 009270-0306811
Client Reference: 50G35570-USA-AT

AUG 04 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION of: Confirmation No: 5242

YOKOI

Application No.: 10/716,537

Group Art Unit: 2621

Filed: November 20, 2003

Examiner: NOT ASSIGNED

Title: INDIVIDUAL RECOGNIZING APPARATUS AND INDIVIDUAL RECOGNIZING METHOD

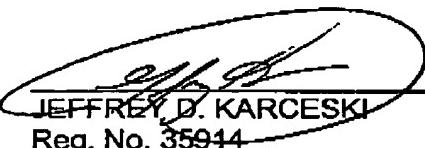
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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

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UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8**

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Information Disclosure Statement

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(Certification of Facsimile Transmission--page 1)

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METHOD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. One copy of each foreign reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner return an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 to Applicants with the next Office communication to indicate that the references has been considered, per MPEP § 609.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.

The references were cited in a European Search Report, dated May 4, 2006. An English language version of the foreign search report is attached for the Examiner's information. An English abstract has been provided for the German language PCT publication and applicants rely upon this abstract for a statement of relevance for this reference.

Respectfully submitted,

PILLSBURY WINTHROP SHAW PITTMAN LLP


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|------------------------|----------------|
| Application Number | 10/716,537 |
| Filing Date | 11/20/2003 |
| First Named Inventor | YOKIO |
| Art Unit | 2621 |
| Examiner Name | Unknown |
| Attorney Docket Number | 009270-0306811 |

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T# |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|----|
| | | Country Code ³ | Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | | |
| | 1 | GB | 2357175 | A 06/13/2001 | UCHIDA | | |
| | 2 | WO | 0043960 | A 07/27/2000 | FRISCHHOLZ | | |
| | 3 | WO | 01/24700 | A1 04/12/2001 | O'GORMAN, ET AL. | | |
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***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinda Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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